IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application of

Applicants

: Don Carl Powell and Garry Anthony Mercaldi

Title

: METHOD FOR FORMING A DIELECTRIC LAYER AND SEMICONDUCTOR

DEVICE INCORPORATING THE SAME

Docket No.

: MIO 0060 VA/98-0814.01

BOX PATENT APPLICATION

Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

This preliminary amendment is being filed with a divisional application of application Serial No. 09/653,096 filed on August 31, 2000.

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please replace the original specification with the filed substitute specification in accordance with 37 C.F.R §1.125. Additionally, in accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.125, please find attached hereto a version of the substitute specification with markings to show changes made, with additions underlined and deletions stricken. In accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.63 and 37 C.F.R. §1.125(b)(1), no new matter has been entered.